



POLICY BRIEF | HB 1193 OCCUPATIONAL FREEDOM AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

When excessive regulation is in place, working Floridians suffer. **HB 1193** offers a policy solution that deregulates certain professions to help people find gainful employment, steady wages and economic mobility.

HB 1193 (Ingoglia) PROFESSIONAL DEREGULATION: reduces or eliminates regulations that overly burden Florida professionals, allowing more people to compete in an open market while continuing to protect public health, safety and welfare.

- Today, nearly one in three workers is required to obtain a license, with the average occupation requiring nine months of training, \$209 in fees, and an exam. Florida ranks 4th in the nation for *most burdensome* licensing laws and 7th for most *extensively and onerously* licensed.¹
- Regulated industries work overtime to convince people that most deregulation has dire consequences. The truth is, workers stand to gain the most from these reforms.
- For some professionals – including barbers and cosmetologists – **HB 1193** reduces the excessive hours of training required to obtain a license.
- In some cases, such as for architects and geologist, people who already have professional licenses and are required to obtain an additional business license if they want to work on their own. **HB 1193** would eliminate that excessive burden on small business owners.
- Finally, for occupations where a license is simply unnecessary, such as commercial interior designers, **HB 1193** would eliminate the requirement all together.
- Many of the deregulated professions in the bill already have industry standards in place for certification. There is no need for a license from the state if the industry already requires exams and certification.
- When deregulation takes effect, the professional associations of regulated industries stand to lose the money they make from providing training and licensing to workers. So, they often use inflammatory messaging to invoke fear of deregulation.

Frequently asked questions about HB 1193:

Q: Will deregulation impact the safety of the clients these licensed professionals serve?

A: *No. Current safety training requirements for professionals – including cosmetologists and barbers -- remain in place under HB 1193. The bill eliminates excessive, not necessary, regulation.*

Q: Why should we vote to deregulate professions that don't want to be deregulated?

A: *The professional associations of regulated industries make big money from providing training, exams and certifications as long as they are required by law. The professionals (the working people) stand to gain from deregulation – they won't have to pay for tests and licenses that are not truly necessary for their line of work. Deregulation opens up freedom and opportunity for skilled professionals to get to work without facing barriers of excessive licensing and fees.*

*Please refer to [bill text](#) and [staff analysis](#) for further information.

¹ Institute for Justice Study, *License to Work*, <https://ij.org/report/license-to-work/lw-state-data/?state=fl>